

2024 -- H 7358 SUBSTITUTE A

LC004328/SUB A/2

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

RELATING TO FISH AND WILDLIFE -- DEER HUNTING

Introduced By: Representatives Bennett, Edwards, Donovan, Cotter, Handy, Cortvriend,
Serpa, Noret, Vella-Wilkinson, and Shanley

Date Introduced: January 31, 2024

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

(Dept. of Environmental Management)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 20-15-7 of the General Laws in Chapter 20-15 entitled "Deer
2 Hunting" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **20-15-7. ~~Deer colliding with vehicles~~ Wildlife colliding with vehicles.**

4 The owner of any vehicle that has been substantially damaged by collision with ~~a deer~~
5 wildlife shall, within twenty-four (24) hours after the collision, report the accident to ~~a conservation~~
6 ~~officer. The officer shall investigate, and if he or she finds the damage has been done as alleged,~~
7 ~~the officer shall give a certificate to the person entitling the person to ownership of the deer carcass~~
8 ~~to be possessed and consumed only with the immediate family of the owner of the vehicle~~ the
9 department of environmental management. The department shall promulgate rules and regulations
10 governing possession and use of the animal carcass. The driver of any vehicle involved in a
11 collision with a deer shall have the right of first refusal to possess and use the deer carcass.

12 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would modify reporting requirements regarding collisions between vehicles and
2 wildlife in instances where the vehicle has been substantially damaged. It would also direct the
3 department of environmental management to promulgate rules and regulations governing
4 possession and use of an animal carcass involved in such a collision.

5 This act would take effect upon passage.

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